

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS POLICY

Subject Restrictions on Future Sewer Connections in the Julian Sewer Service Area of the San Diego County Sanitation District.

**Policy
Number**

I-113

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Purpose

To identify criteria for allowing future sewer connections to the conveyance system that transports sewage to the Julian Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Background

The original wastewater treatment and collection system in Julian was constructed in 1936 and consisted of approximately 1,720 feet of 6 inch pipe and a 2,000 gallon septic tank and leach field. The Julian Sanitation District was formed in 1945 and consisted of approximately 63 acres which included the Julian town site. By 1952, the wastewater flow had increased to 7,000 gallons per day (gpd). An additional 22,000 gallon septic tank and a 6 inch outfall to Colman Creek were added to replace the undersized tank and failing leach fields.

The existing Julian Wastewater Treatment Plant began operation on June 28, 1981. The plant consists of a septic tank, two aerated basins, two secondary sedimentation basins, and two emergency storage ponds which store the plant effluent prior to irrigation of surrounding lands. In July 2011, the Julian Wastewater Treatment Plant and all its supporting facilities were annexed into and became a part of the San Diego County Sanitation District ("District"). The District now owns and operates these facilities.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has regulatory oversight of the Julian Wastewater Treatment Plant. Permit conditions contained in RWQCB-Order No. 83-09, limit the effluent discharge to 40,000 gpd. On any given day, exceedance of the 40,000 gpd limit could be a violation of the operating permit. Julian experiences higher flows on weekends, and the average daily flow to the treatment plant during FY 2010-11 was 37,000 gpd on weekends. This leaves a permit capacity available for new permits of about 3,000 gpd (i.e., 19 Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) based on 155 gallons per EDU).

Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Supervisors, acting as the Board of Directors of the District with regard to the allocation of capacity in the Julian Wastewater Treatment Plant and changes in use of properties impacting the strength of sewer discharges into this plant that:

The Julian Wastewater Treatment Plant consistently operates at or near capacity, especially during rain storms and on weekends, so future connections to the sewerage system will be limited. Future sewer permits will only be issued to properties that meet one of the three criteria specified below.

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1. Previously Issued Commitments

A total of 14.6 Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) have been previously committed for future connections to the sewerage system. These commitments are in the form of purchased sewer capacity commitments (SCCs) or other contractual obligations. Future sewer connections will be permitted for parcels listed in the table below, given that flows do not to exceed the EDU limits indicated.

Assessor Parcel Number	EDUs (SCC)	EDUs (Contract)
291-072-21	1	
291-078-01	6	
291-084-27	2	
291-085-10	1	
291-087-04	0.4	
291-083-10	1	
291-079-02, 11, 15		3.2
TOTAL EDUs: 14.6		

2. Failed Septic Systems within the District

There may be occurrences of properties located within District boundaries where the County Department of Environmental Health or other responsible government agency has certified that the septic or other sewer system serving the property 1) has failed or is no longer available, 2) cannot be adequately repaired or replaced, and 3) poses a threat to the health and safety of the public or the affected residents. Issuance of a sewer permit under this category shall not diminish or otherwise reduce the capacity rights associated with existing SCCs or contractual commitments.

3. Failed Septic Systems outside the District

There may be occurrences of properties located outside the District boundary where the County Department of Environmental Health or other responsible government agency has certified that the septic or other sewer system serving the property 1) has failed or is no longer available, 2) cannot be adequately repaired or replaced, and 3) poses a threat to the health and safety of the public or the

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affected residents. Properties in this category shall only be allowed to connect to the sewerage system, in accordance with Board Policy I-36 (which describes an annexation process), at the discretion of the Director of the Department of Public Works in consultation with the Director of the Department of Environmental Health. Issuance of a sewer permit under this category shall not diminish or otherwise reduce the capacity rights associated with existing SCCs or contractual commitments.

Existing Parcels with Proposed Changes in Use:

Sewage strength has a significant impact on the volume of sewage the treatment plant is able to treat and process. If any existing permitted parcel proposes a change in use of the property, and the proposed use is more intensive than the current use, an analysis of the sewage strength for the proposed use must be submitted as part of any application for a permit. The analysis must verify that the strength of sewage of any additional Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDUs) does not exceed 250 milligrams per liter (mg/l) Biochemical Oxygen Demand and 200 mg/l Total Suspended Solids. These limits are established to ensure that no operational problems or permit violations occur at the treatment plant. Approval to exceed either of these strength limitations shall be at the discretion of the Director of the Department of Public Works.

Sunset Date

This policy will be reviewed for continuance by 12-31-18.

Board Action

6-20-89 (1 Julian San)
10-15-91 (2 Julian San)
9-29-92 (22)
3-22-94 (1 Julian San)
7-14-98 (20, SAN 3)
08-07-02 (5)
12-09-08 (33)
05-09-12 (4)

CAO Reference

1. Department of Public Works
2. Department of Environmental Health